

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**ROUTING SLIP**

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI				
2	DDCI				
3	EXDIR				
4	D/ICS				
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6	DDA				
7	DDO				
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/OLL				
15	D/PAO				
16	SA/IA				
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPD/OIS				
19	NIO				
20	SA/DDO		X		
21					
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SUSPENSE		Date _____			

Remarks

Executive Secretary

2 May 85

Date

3637 (10-81)

STAT



Executive Registry	
85-	1788

Plasma Fusion Center
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
Telephone: 617/253-8100

25 April 1985

Mr. William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

We recently wrote to Secretary General Gorbachev concerning the arrest, conviction, and imprisonment of Soviet citizen and scientist Pyotr Butov of Odessa (see Enclosure 1: Letter to Secretary General Gorbachev).

As described in the accompanying document from the Committee of Concerned Scientists, Inc. (Enclosure 2), Mr. Butov was convicted in August 1982 for monitoring human rights violations in the Soviet Union. Since his conviction there has been absolutely no word concerning his state of health or place of internment (see Enclosure 1). Thus, we are extremely concerned about Mr. Butov.

Would your agency have any information that could help us in trying to assist Mr. Butov from further unjustified persecution (such as place of incarceration)?

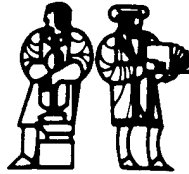
Very truly yours,

Richard Petrasso
Chairman, MIT Committee for
Pyotr Butov

RP/ak
Enclosures: 2



C-304



ENCLOSURE 1

Plasma Fusion Center
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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25 March 1985

Secretary General Mikhail S. Gorbachev
Secretary General of the Communist Party
Kremlin
Moscow, RSFSR
USSR

Dear Secretary General Gorbachev:

We are writing to you in order to express our hope for establishing greater scientific cooperation and exchange between the academic institutions of our two countries. However, a subject of great consternation to scientists at MIT and elsewhere — an issue which directly bears on increased cooperation — concerns the fate of Soviet citizen and scientist Pyotr Butov of Odessa, who was convicted in August 1982 of anti-Soviet agitation. Since his conviction there has been no word concerning his place of internment or his state of health.

Our previous inquiries to the Soviet government about Mr. Butov's health and place of internment have not received any response. Because of this, there is growing concern within the MIT scientific community as to the fate of Mr. Butov.

Any assistance that you can render on this matter would be greatly appreciated by the MIT scientific community. Such action would certainly be a positive step towards improving the atmosphere for increased scientific exchange between our countries and institutions of higher learning.

Sincerely yours,
MIT Executive Committee for Pyotr Butov

Dr. Richard Petrasso
Dr. Richard Petrasso

Dr. Leslie Bromberg
Dr. Leslie Bromberg

Dr. Richard J. Temkin
Dr. Richard J. Temkin

Dr. Catherine L. Fiore
Dr. Catherine L. Fiore

copies to: Mr. A. M. Rekunkov, Procurator General of the USSR
Mr. F. K. Glukh, Chief Procurator of the Ukrainian SSR
Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin, Embassy of the Soviet Union
Academician A. P. Alexandrov, President, USSR Academy of Science

President Ronald Reagan
Senator Edward Kennedy, US Senator
Senator John Kerry, US Senator
Representative Barney Frank, US Representative

ENCLOSURE 2

Committee of Concerned Scientists, Inc.

330 Seventh Ave., Suite 60
New York, N.Y. 10001
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THE SITUATION OF PYOTR BUTOV

Odessa physicist Pyotr Butov was arrested in February 1982 and charged with "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda," (Article 62 of the Ukrainian SSR Criminal Code; Article 70 of the RSFSR Criminal Code.) Under this article, which is applied specifically to restrict freedom of expression in the USSR, he was condemned at an August 1982 trial to five years strict-regimen labor camp, to be followed by two years internal exile.

Formerly employed at the Institute of Hydrophysics of the Sea -- an Odessa research facility -- Mr. Butov received his masters degree in physics from Odessa State University in 1971. He has been published in English in Sov. Phys. Acoustics 28 (2), 1982, (with W.W. Popov).

On June 30, 1981, Pyotr Butov's home was searched. He was subsequently called in for questioning by the KGB on three occasions and asked if he was involved in producing material for A Chronicle of Current Events. The Chronicle, an unofficial journal of the human rights movement in the USSR which provides a reliable documentary record of human rights abuses, has been published at regular intervals since 1968 despite official attempts to suppress it. In 1979, the editor of the Chronicle, Tatyana Velikanova, was arrested on charges of "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda" and was subsequently sentenced to four years imprisonment and five years internal exile. It was Mr. Butov's connection with the Chronicle that led to his later sentencing on these same charges.